

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re: Godwin, et. al.

Serial No.: To be assigned

Filed: Concurrently herewith

For: **METHODS, SYSTEMS AND COMPUTER PROGRAM PRODUCTS FOR  
SECURITY PROCESSING INBOUND COMMUNICATIONS IN A CLUSTER  
COMPUTING ENVIRONMENT**

Date: January 17, 2001

BOX PATENT APPLICATION

Commissioner for Patents

Washington, DC 20231

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

The present Preliminary Amendment is provided to correct a typographic error in the claim dependencies in the above-referenced application.

**In the Claims:**

Please amend Claims 22 through 24 as follows:

22. (Amended) A system according to Claim [21]20, wherein the routing communication protocol stack is further configured to decrypt the Transmission Control Protocol (TCP) header of received IPSec encapsulated datagrams to determine if the received datagram is associated with a DVIPA.

23. (Amended) A system according to Claim [21]20, wherein the routing communication protocol stack is further configured to store an IPSec sequence number in a coupling facility.

24. (Amended) A system according to Claim [21]20, wherein the communication protocol stacks at each of the target hosts are further configured to update a lifetime count of the IKE associated with IPSec processed datagrams.

**REMARKS**

Applicants provide the present Preliminary Amendment to correct inadvertently misnumbering the dependency of Claims 22 through 24. Applicants note that no Claim 21

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was presented in the original specification and, therefore, have changed Claims 22 through 24 to depend from Claim 20. Applicants request entry of the present Preliminary Amendment prior to examination of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

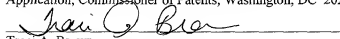


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Traci A. Brown  
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